

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07 L-02 ACDA-05

NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

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FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 418

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S E C R E T USNATO 1155

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJECT: WINTEXT-75

REF: DPC/D(69)59.

SUMMARY: AS WASHINGTON IS AWARE, DPC WILL PARTICIPATE IN WINTEXT-75 DURING PERIOD FROM 0900GMT, MARCH9, TO NO LATER THAN 2300 GMT, MARCH10, PRIMARILY FOR PURPOSE FOR EXERCISING NATO GUIDELINES FOR CONSULTATION PROCEDURES ON THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS(REF). THIS WILL BE ONLY THE SECOND TIME THAT NATO POLITICAL AUTHROITIES HAVE PARTICIPATED IN EXERCISE CONSULTATIONS ON THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, THE FIRST BEING IN WINTEXT-73. THE MATTER OF HOW NATO WOULD PROCEED TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS SENSITIVE, EVEN IF EXERCISE PLAU BOTH BECAUSE OF HOW ALLIES VIEEW THEIR ROLE IN THE DE CISION-MAKING PROCESS LEADING TO THE USE OF NUCLEAR WAPONS, AND BECAUSE OF US RESPONSIBILTIES FOR RELEASE OF US NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR OPERATIONAL USE. THIS MESSAGE ALERTS US PARTICIPANTS TO SOME DIFFERENCES IN ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN WINTEXT-75 AND WINTEX-73 THAT COULD AFFECT PROCESS OF CONSULTA-TIONS IN DPC. END SUMMARY.

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1. THERE ARE TWO PROVISIONS IN ARRANGEMENTS FOR WINTEX-UT THAT DIFFER FROM WINTEX-73 AND COULD AFFECT THE WAY NUCLEAR CONSULTATIONS COULD DEVELOP. FIRST, WHEREAS IN WINTEXT-73 ACTIVE DPC PARTICIPATION CEASED WHEN THE NUCLEAR POWER MADE A

DECISION ON A RELEASE REQUEST, IN WINTEX-75 ACTIVE DPC PARTICIPATION MIGHT CONTINUE BEYOND THAT POINT (UP TO AS LATE AS 2300 GMT, MARCH10). A SITUATION COULD ARISE, THEREFORE, IN WHICH THE DPC COULD BE IN SESSION (E.G., TO DISCUSS ANY ADDITIONAL RELEASE REQUESTS THAT MAY HAVE COME IN, OR FOR ANY OTHER PURPOSE) AFTER THE NUCLEAR POWER HAS REPLIED TO AN MNC'S INITIAL ROMEO(REQUEST) MESSAGE, AND THUS COULD ENGAGE IN A "DISCUSSION" OF THE DECISION RENEERED. IN SUCH A SITUATION, USNATO WILL ATTEMPT TO SEE THAT THE TERMS OF THE NATO CONSULTATION GUIDELINES (REF) ARE OBSERVED. FOR EXAMPLE, WE WOULD, IF NECESSARY, CALL ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT, WHILE NUCLEAR POWERS WILL, TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES PERMITTING, CONSIDER NATIONAL VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY OF GRANTING REQUEST FOR USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS, ONCE DECISION OF NUCLEAR POWER IS MADE AND COMMUNICATED TO MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS, INFO DPC AND CAPITALS, THAT COMMUNICATION CONSTITUTES MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS' AUTHORITY TO EMPLOY WEAPONS IN QUESTION, AND NO FURTHER ACTION ON THE PART OF DPC IS REQUIRED.

2. CONCERNING THE SECOND DIFFERENCE, IN WINTEX-73 SACEUR, ALTHOUGH ABLE TO SUBMIT MORE THAN ONE ROMEO(REQUEST) MESSAGE, WAS REQUIRED TO PRESENT THEM TO THE DPC AND CAPITALS AS A "SINGLE PACKAGE" CONSTITUTING THE INITIAL USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS. (SACEUR IN FACT SUBMITTED SIMULTANEOUSLY SEPARATE REQUESTS COVERING US AND UK WEAPONS). THE SAME REQUIREMENT DOES NOT APPLY TO WINTEX-75. IT IS POSSIBLE THEREFORE, THAT SEPARATE REQUESTS COVERING US AND UK WEAPONS, WHICH SET VARYING DEADLINES FOR REPLIES AND WERE RELATED TO DIFFERENT MILITARY CIRCUMSTANCES (AS WELL AS SEPARATE REQUESTS FROM SACEUR AND CACLANT), COULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE NUCLEAR POWERS, INFO DPC AND CAPITALS. SUCH A SITUATION COULD PRODUCE A FAR MORE COMPLICATED PROCESS OF CONSULTATIONS IN THE DPC THAN TOOK PLACE IN WINTEX-73, MAKING IT MORE LIKELY THAT THERE COULD BE SPLITS IN ALLIED VIEW. MISSION BELIEVES WE SHOULD SEEK TO MINIMIZE LIKELIHOOD OF SUCH A SITUATION AND DEAL TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE WITH RELEASE REQUESTS AS A WHOLE, AND IN TERMS OF "INITIAL" USE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

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MISSION PRESUMES THAT MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS, DURING THIS CRITICAL PERIOD OF EXERCISE PLAY, WILL FORMULATE THEIR REQUESTS FOR RELEASE OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS IN SUCH A WAY AS TO FACILITATE THE STATED PURPOSE OF DPC PLAY.

3. MISSION RECOGNIZES THAT TIMING OF WASHINGTON'S DECISION ON RELEASE REQUESTS CONCERNING US NUCLEAR WEAPONS WILL OF NECESSITY DEPEND UPON DEADLINE SET IN A MAJOR NATO COMMANDER'S ROMEO MESSAGE(S). WE EXPECT SYG TO CONVENE DPC TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR EXPRESSION OF NATIONAL VIEWS IN ADEQUATE TIME TO ALLOW FOR REPORTING THOSE VIEWS (BY SYG AS WELL AS BY US AND UK MISSIONS) TO WASHINGTON AND LONDON, AND FOR DECISIONS MAKING IN THOSE CAPITALS. HOWEVER, IN THE EVENT SOME CAPITALS ARE SLOW IN GETTING

INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR DELEGATIONS HERE, THERE COULD BE
SOME DELAYS IN THE CONSULTATION PROCESS, AND THE NUCLEAR
POWER(S) MAY FIND IT NECESSARY TO MAKE A DECISION BEFORE
GEARING FROM ALL DPC MEMBERS, HOWEVER, IN ORDER TO GAIN FULL
BENEFIT OF EXERCISE, WE WOULD HOPE THAT
WASHINGTON WOULD ALLOW MAXIMUM TIME FOR EXPRESSION AND
CONSIDERATION OF NATIONAL VIEWS CONSISTENT WITH THE MILITARY
EXIGENCIES EXPRESSED IN A MAJOR NATO COMMANDER'S RELEASE
REQUEST MESSAGE (SLM)

4. AS IN THE CASE OF WINTEX-73, WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE
THAT, FOR PURPOSES OF THIS EXERCISE, US POSITION IN DPC ON
SUBSTANCE OF WARNING AND REQUEST MESSAGES AFFECTING US
WEAPONS SHOULD BE ESSENTIALLY NEUTRAL, SO AS TO AVOID SEEMING
TO PREJUDGE LATER WASHINGTON DECISION. WASHINGTON MAY VERY
WELL, HOWEVER, WISH TO INSTRUCT US TO EXPRESS A VIEW ON
MESSAGES CONCERNING UK WEAPONS. IN ABSENCE OF INSTRUCTIONS,
WE DO NOT EXPECT TO EXPRESS A VIEW ON SUBSTANCE OF REQUESTS
FOR EITHER US OR UK WEAPONS.
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